Mr. Govinda Pillai.—I beg to say a word in explanation. It was after careful consideration that I proposed to leave out cases of negligence and breaches of of contract from the scope of the Bill. I have already given my reasons for the course I have adopted. I am afraid that if such cases are also to be included in the Bill, it will materially affect the principle of the Bill as I have thought fit to adopt. I would, therefore, adhere to the limited scope I have given to the Bill.

A discussion followed, in the course of which the President re-iterated his observation that the only principle now to be affirmed by the Council is that a summary procedure be provided for the recovery of liabilities of public servants in the same manner as arrears of public revenue, and that all details may be left for the consideration of the Select Committee.

Mr. Govinda Pillai said:

"I have no objection to extend the scope of the Bill to cases of loss to Government caused by the negligence of the public servant who is entrusted with public property in respect of such property, provided it is not extended to cases of loss in respect of property in the custody of others."

The motion being put to the vote, the general sense of the Council was that the principle of the Bill as stated by the President may be affirmed and that the question whether the scope of the Bill should, in any way, be restricted may be left to the Select Committee like all other details connected with the measure.

After some further discussion, as the extension of the Bill beyond the scope defined by Mr. Govinda Pillai was not pressed by the Council, he proposed that the Bill as moved by him be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. Rajaram Row, Kesava Pillai, Padmanabha Menon and the Mover, to report within three months.

Seconded by Mr. Nagam Aiya.

Carried.

DYNAMITE BILL.

Mr. Kesava Pillai.—The object of the amendments of which I have given notice is to extend the scope of the Bill to all explosives instead of restricting it to dynamite. It will be observed that section 10 of the Bill empowers the Government to extend its provisions to any explosive, and the extended scope thus given renders it illogical to call it "Dynamite Regulation." It would be more consistent to call it "Explosives Regulation" just like the British Indian Act IV of 1884, of which it is an adaptation. I beg, therefore, to propose my first amendment, *viz.*, that in the heading and the preamble, the word "explosives" be substituted for "dynamite."

Seconded by Mr. Nagam Aiya.

Carried.

Section 1.

Mr. Kesava Pillai.—I beg to propose that in line 1 of this section, the words "may be called 'The Travancore Explosives Regulation' and" be inserted between "Regulation" and "shall". It is obviously desirable to give the short title for purposes of reference.

Seconded by Mr. Rajaram Row.

Carried.

Section 2.

Mr. Kesava Pillai.—I beg to propose that the following be substituted for the definition of "dynamite":

"'Explosive'—

(*a*) means gunpowder, nitro-glycerine, dynamite, gun-cotton, blasting powders, fulminate of mercury or of other metals, coloured fires and every other

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substance, whether similar to those above mentioned or not, used or manufactured with a view to produce a practical effect by explosion, or a pyrotechnic effect; and

(*b*) includes fog-signals, fire-works, fuses, rockets, percussion-caps, detonators, cartridges, ammunition of all descriptions, and every adaptation or preparation of an explosive as above defined."

This definition is taken from the British Act.

Seconded by Mr Govinda Pillai.

Carried.

Sections 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10.

Mr. Kesava Pillai.—I beg to propose a few verbal amendments in these sections which are necessary in consequence of the amendments just carried.

Substitute—

(1) "an explosive" for "any dynamite" in section 3, clause 1, line 3;
(2) "an explosive" for "dynamite" in section 3, clause (2), line 1;
(3) "the explosive" for "dynamite" in section 3, clause (2), line 4;
(4) "an explosive" for "any dynamite" in section 4, line 3;
(5) "an explosive" for "any dynamite" in section 6 (1),clause (*a*), line 3;
(6) "an explosive" for "dynamite" in section 6 (1), clause (*a*), line 6;
(7) "explosives" for "dynamite" in section 6 (1), clause (*b*);
(8) "explosive" for "dynamite" in section 6 (1), clauses (*c*) and (*d*)
(9) "explosive, or the ingredient of the explosive" for "dynamite" in section 7, line 5;
(10) "explosive, ingredient" for "dynamite," in section 7, line 8;
(11) "an explosive" for "dynamite" in section 9, clause (*a*), line 5 and clause (*b*), line 1;
(12) "deemed to be an explosive within the meaning of" for "brought under" in section 10, line 10; and
(13) "that substance in like manner as if it were included in the definition of the term 'explosive' in this Regulation" for "such substance" in section 10, line 14.

Seconded by Mr. Dharmaraja Iyer.

Carried.

Section 6 (3).

Mr. Kesava Pillai.—I beg to propose that the word "only" be inserted before "within" in line 4 of this section. This is only a verbal amendment intended to make the wording precise.

Seconded by Mr. Padmanabha Menon.

Carried.

Section 8.

Mr. Kesava Pillai.—I beg to propose that the words "within the meaning of the Penal Code" in this section be omitted. These words are unnecessary as the definition of "abetment" is given in the General Clauses Regulation, II of 1072.

Seconded by Mr. Govinda Pillai.

Carried.

Section 11.

Mr. Kesava Pillai.—I beg to propose that the following be added as clause (*f*) of this section:

"the exemption absolutely or subject to conditions of any explosives from the operation of this Regulation."

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This is also taken from the Indian Explosives Act, and is very necessary in the circumstances of this country. The definition of "explosives", which we have now adopted, includes gun-powder, fire-works and similar substances which are very commonly used either for preventing the ravages of wild animals in the interior parts of the country or for festive occasions of almost everyday occurrence. It is not intended to place any restriction in such cases. In the absence of the power mentioned in the amendment, it will be necessary for all persons to take out licenses each time, which will doubtless cause a deal of hardship and inconvenience.

Seconded by Mr. Kuruvila.

Carried.

Mr. Kesava Pillai.—I beg to move that the Bill as amended be passed, and that it come into force on the 6th Edavom 1079, *i. e.*, the date on which Regulation I of 1079 passed under the urgency clause will cease to have effect.

The motion was put and agreed to.

BILL FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to propose the few verbal amendments of which I have given notice :—

(1) In section 1, clause (2), substitute the words "The Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation, 1076" for "Regulation III of 1076."

(2) In section 6, substitute "cause" for "causes" in clause (1), line 6, and "care" for "cure" in clause 2, line 4 and clause 3, line 6; omit the words "under his own charge" in clause (3); and insert the word "the" between "for" and "work" in clause (3), line 9.

(3) In section 8, substitute the word "without" for "except with" and the words "or after" for "and except before."

Seconded by Mr. Govinda Pillai.

Carried.

Mr. Ferguson.—I beg to move that the Bill as amended be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

Mr. Ferguson.—It is appropriate that this Bill should be passed at this the last meeting at which I shall be present. I thank the Members of the Council for their kind assistance in enabling me to mould the Bill in such a manner as to safeguard the interests of the people, while affording the necessary relief to the dumb creatures whom the Bill seeks to protect from cruelty.

President.—Mr. Ferguson has done great service to this country in several respects, and the Bill which has now been passed is solely due to his efforts and bears ample testimony to his large-hearted sympathy for "the dumb and defenceless of God's creatures." He is now on the eve of his retirement, and it is pleasing to note that his connection with this Council closes with this measure of charity and mercy.

PLANTERS LABOUR BILL.

Mr. Rajaram Row.—In pursuance of the permission granted me at the last meeting of the Council, I beg now to introduce this Bill. I have nothing to add to what I have said at the last meeting and in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill. I now formally place the Bill before the Council and move that the discussion of the principle be postponed to the next meeting.

The motion was put and agreed to.

BREACH OF CONTRACT REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Rajaram Row.—This is merely a reproduction of the existing Regulation

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